

At page 149, please delete the title of the invention and substitute the following:

B3
~~ANTIBODIES TO GROWTH FACTOR HOMOLOG ZVEGF3~~

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-32 and 37-45 without prejudice.

REMARKS

Entry of the above amendments is requested. With entry of these amendments, claims 33-36 are in the application. Claims 33-36 have been found allowable. Claims 1-32 and 37-45, which have been withdrawn from consideration in view of the restriction requirement, have been cancelled. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute claims to cancelled subject matter in one or more continuing applications.

The specification has been amended to replace the title with one more indicative of the claimed subject matter, i.e., antibodies to the growth factor homolog zveg3.

The specification has also been amended to include a cross-reference to related provisional applications. Applicants have previously claimed priority from these applications, which claim has been acknowledged in the Filing Receipt.

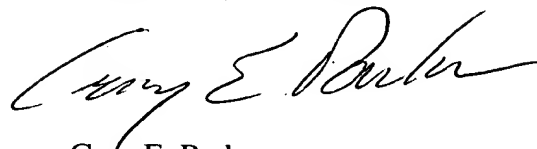
As a result of the cancellation of claims 1-32 and 37-45, the invention of inventors Debra G. Gilbertson and James W. West is no longer being claimed in this application. A Request to Correct Inventorship Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) is enclosed.

The Examiner has indicated that the significance of references A14-A39, submitted with Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement of November 1, 2000, "cannot be assessed, as no alignment was provided between the cited sequences and SEQ ID NO: 2 of this application." Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement is believed to be in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, and Applicants are not aware of any requirement that an alignment be included in an IDS. Applicants' claimed invention is believed to be patentable over the references in question, which disclose nucleotide sequences and, in the case of reference A27, an amino acid sequence. Applicants' claims are directed to antibodies, which are neither taught nor suggested by these references, taken individually or in combination with other art of record.

On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that all formal matters raised in the Office Action have been addressed. The invention is believed to be patentable over the art of record. If for any reason the Examiner feels that

a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (206) 442-6673.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Enclosures:

Amendment Fee Transmittal (in duplicate)
Request to Correct Inventorship (in duplicate)
Postcard

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